GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4811
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
ACTION AGAINST CONTENTS OF INTERNET
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contents on internet, printed material or pictures which contain vulgar display is causing harm to young minds in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) The Internet contains large volume of content of diverse categories. Whenever a complaint is lodged regarding some objectionable material hosted on website, appropriate action is initiated.

(c) Actions taken/being taken by the Government in this regard are as under:-

(i) Licence Agreement for provision of Internet service provides that the Licensee shall take necessary measures to prevent objectionable and obscene content from being carried on his network, consistent with the established laws of the country. Once specific instances of such infringement are reported to the Licensee by the enforcement agencies, the Licensee shall ensure that the carriage of such material on his network is prevented immediately.

(ii) Section 67 of the Information Technology Act. 2000 provides for punishment for publishing and transmitting information in electronic form which is obscene.

(iii) Government has further introduced Information Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2006 on 15.12.2006 in Lok Sabha, which proposes provision of punishment for publishing or transmitting material containing sexually explicit act in electronic form.